



## FIRST UNITED CHURCH

Swift Current, SK  
Sunday, April 16, 2023

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Leading Worship: Rev. Ray Friesen  
Music Director: James McLauchlan  
Pianist: Mary Anderson  
Reader: Karen Richmond



#### GATHERING

##### Moment for Reflection

*God put the world square with [God] self through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. 2 Cor 5:18-19.*  
(The Message)

##### Land Acknowledgement & Announcements

##### Lighting the Christ Candle

**Gathering Hymn: VU #412 *This Is the Day*** (verses 1 & 3)  
(please remain seated)

##### Call to Worship

ONE: Worship the Lord

**ALL: The Source of all that is good in our lives;  
and there is much.**

ONE: Praise God

**ALL: The Ground of our Being;  
the Shepherd of our souls.**

ONE: Offer songs of thanksgiving to the Almighty

**ALL: In whom we live, and move and have our being**

ONE: Bask in the Wonder of the One

**ALL: Whose wisdom informs us;  
whose knowledge shapes us; whose staff guides us.**

**Opening Hymn: MV #62 *There Is Room for All*** - sung twice  
(please stand as you are able)

#### Worship Schedule

Apr 23	<i>Earth Sunday</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
Apr 30	<i>St. Andrew's Sunday</i>	- Shawn Sanford Beck
May 7	<i>Asian Heritage Month</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor
May 14	<i>Mother's Day</i>	- Rev. Annette Taylor

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##### Recent Events:

Thursday, April 13 – Les MacDonald Memorial Service

#### Placing Ourselves in Colonialism Webinar Series



Starting April 24, join us for a four-session workshop as we explore our histories and stories, and share about our individual family history too. Where do we connect with the forces of colonization? What are our responsibilities in the places where we have “settled” and the people whose lives have been impacted? Where does this lead us in our discipleship?

Leadership for this workshop includes Elaine Enns, Ched Myers, Tony Snow, Adele Halliday, and Sara Stratton. Find out more, and [register on CHURCHx](#).

## Opening Prayer

Holy Mystery, Ground of our Being

Creator and Keeper of All that Is

Source of Love and Healing

In this hour of worship

May your Presence seem ever more real

May our Understanding of your Will and Word increase

May our courage to embrace life grow strong

May we realize again our companionship with each

Is rooted in you and given Life by your Spirit.

We are never alone for we have You and we have each other.

And so together we pray the Prayer Jesus taught us, saying:

**The Lord's Prayer** (sung version – VU #959)

## WORD

**Hymn: VU #343 *I Love to Tell the Story*** verses 1 & 2  
(please remain seated)

**Community Learning Time** – Melanie Davis

**Hymn: VU #343 *I Love to Tell the Story*** verses 3 & 4

**Scripture Reading: John 20:19–31**

ONE: We read this text so that in it  
we may find wisdom for life.

ALL: May we be open to the Wisdom  
we understand and hear.

**Reflection: *Patch Adams in Swift Current***

**Choral Offering: *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life***

## RESPONSE

**Minute for Mission: Learning about agroecology at the  
Dora Alicia Sorto School Farm in El Salvador**

**Offering Invitation**

## Prayer of Dedication

**In words of compassion & reconciliation,**

**Christ is alive!**

**In acts of peacemaking & peace bringing,**

**Christ is alive!**

**In support for those living with fear and despair,**

**Christ is alive!**

**In gifts for the local church and for a needy world**

**Christ is alive!**

**May we be evidence of Christ's vitality. Amen.**

Adapted from: David Sparks, *Gathering L/E* 2023, p. 50.

## Prayers of the People

One: . . . and so we ask

**ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Hymn: MV #154 *Deep in Our Hearts***  
(please stand as you are able)

## Commissioning & Benediction

**Choral Closing: VU #974 *Amen***

## Postlude

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## Lectionary Readings for April 23, 2023

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19 (VU p. 836)

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

## Prayers Cycles

### Ministerial

Bridgeway Community Church

Living Skies Regional Council

Dundurn, Hanley

Eston: St. Andrew's

Foam Lake